

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4983

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 3709

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EMIN, ENRG, OSCI PL

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT TO THE US BY POLISH MINING EXPERTS

REF: (A) STATE 108293; (B) STATE 126477; (C) WARSAW 3289

PASSTO INTERIOR AND COMMERCE

1. POLISH MINISTRY OF MINING AND POWER INFORMED EMBASSY ON JULY 27 OF ITS PROPOSAL TO SEND GROUP OF EXPERTS IN FIELD OF COAL, OIL, AND GAS, TO THE US, AS MENTIONED BY AMBASSADOR TRANPCZYNSKI TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY STOESSEL (REF B, PARA 4). MINISTRY PROPOSES THAT GROUP OF FOUR TO SIX PERSONS, HEADED BY VICE MINISTER OF MINIG ZYGFRYD NOWAK, SPEND ABOUT 10 DAYS IN THE US, BEGINNING ABOUT SEPTEMBER 10.

2. POLISH DELEGATION WILL ATTEND PARTICULARLY TO PROBLEMS OF UTILIZATION OF COAL, INCLUDING GASIFICATION. IT WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY FOR LONG-TERM COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH US INDUSTRY IN ENERGY. PL-480 COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS IN ENERGY RESEARCH WOULD PRESUMABLY ALSO FIGURE ON AGENDA.

3. WE ASSUME THAT POLES HAVE IN MIND A VISIT ALONG LINES OF THOSE MADE TO THE US DURING PAST YEAR BY POLISH
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DELEGATIONS FROM VARIOUS INDUSTRIAL SECTORS, WITH PROGRAM INCLUD-

ING (A) MEETINGS WITH US INDUSTRY, ARRANGED CHIEFLY BY POLISH COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATIVES IN THE US, AND (B) MEETINGS WITH US GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, IN THIS CASE, PRIMARILY WITH DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR REPRESENTATIVES AND OTHER EXPERTS CONCERNED WITH MINING AND ENERGY MATTERS. (REGARDING COAL GASIFICATION, GENERAL DIRECTOR OF POLISH FOREIGN TRADE ENTERPRISE KOPEX TOLD US EARLIER THIS WEEK THAT POLAND WOULD PROBABLY CHOOSE OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM AS PARTNER IN RESEARCH IN THIS FIELD, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF COMPANY'S EXPERIENCE AND CAPABILITIES. AS REPORTED IN REF C, PARA 3, OCCIDENTAL'S CHAIRMAN ARMAND HAMMER ISSUED INVITATION TO POLES DURING VISIT HERE IN EARLY JULY TO SEND OIL AND COAL EXPERTS TO SEE OCCIDENTAL'S PLANTS IN THE US.)

4. NOWAK, PROPOSED AS LEADER OF GROUP, WAS NAMED VICE MINISTER EARLIER THIS YEAR. HE TRAVELED TO THE US IN 1972 FOR SIX-MONTH STUDY TOUR UNDER UN AUSPICES. HE IS YOUNG, BRIGHT, AND FLUENT IN ENGLISH. HE IS HIMSELF AN EXPERT IN COAL GASIFICATION AND LIQUEFATION AND HAS SERVED AS GENERAL DIRECTOR OF POLISH INSTITUTE "SEPARATOR," A RESEARCH CENTER DEALING WITH UTILIZATION AND DRESSING OF MINERALS. HE WAS FORMERLY A MEMBER OF ACADEMIC STAFF OF CENTRAL MINING INSTITUTE IN KATOWICE. HE IS ACQUAINTED WITH A NUMBER OF US GOVERNMENT, INDUSTRY, AND ACADEMIC FIGURES PROMINENT IN ENERGY AND COAL RESEARCH AND IS WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO EMBASSY. HE PARTICIPATED AS TECHNICAL EXPERT AND INTERPRETER IN TALKS AND MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF INTERIOR HOLLIS LOLE DURING HIS JULY 1972 VISIT TO POLAND.

5. MINISTRY OF MINING, IN ITS CALL TO US, INDICATED AWARENESS OF "CERTAIN DIFFICULTIES" WHICH COULD IMPEDE THE VISIT. MINISTRY OFFICIAL HOPED NONETHELESS FOR AN EARLY RESPONSE IN VIEW OF NOWAK'S ALREADY CROWDED FALL SCHEDULE.

6. NOWAK'S TECHNICAL BACKGROUND AND US EXPERIENCE MAKE HIM IN ALL PROBABILITY THE BEST QUALIFIED MAN IN POLAND FOR LEADERSHIP OF THIS DELEGATION. WE BELIEVE THESE QUALIFICATIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN RESOLVING QUESTION OF SUITABILITY OF VISIT AT NOWAK'S LEVEL, REF A, PARA 3 IN SEPTEMBER.

DAVIES

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